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Apcar, Diana Agabeg

The stone which the
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[Tokyo?]

[1913?]

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Reprinted from "THE FAR EAST," Tokyo, November 8, 1913.

**THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS
REJECTED, THE SAME IS BECOME
THE HEAD OF THE CORNER**

To the Editor of "THE FAR EAST."

SIR,—I beg the favour of your columns once more to discuss the Armenian Question. This Armenian Question which may seem insignificant and unimportant to the uninitiated is nevertheless now become tied up with that most portentous of portentous questions "The Peace of Europe," and as such it is worthy of a place in the columns of any paper.

There are three names written in letters of fire across the pages of Armenian history which has been in the making during the closing years of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century—Britain, Russia, Germany.

These three names are connected with the most fearful and the most cruel tragedy that has ever been put on the world's stage. The tragedy which has come to be known as The Armenian Martyrdom. The Armenian Martyrdom has resulted from three causes: Great Britain's jealousy of Russia and her struggle to check Russian advance in the Near East at all costs; Russia's desire for an Armenia without Armenians; and Germany's desire for the Baghdad railway.

During this period of the Armenian Martyrdom, the European Press, whenever it has devoted any columns or paragraphs or lines to the subject, has been careful to place before the world not facts but fiction; for not only has the European press been invariably careful to minimise the enormity of the excesses of which the Armenians have been the victims, and even in many instances to make the victims responsible for the excesses; but the European press has invariably been careful never to throw the searchlight on the "Powers" that have stood behind the savageries and barbarities and made them possible.

But facts which it has been possible to cover under sophistications of language in the past can no longer be hidden in the developments of the present.

In 1895 Lord Salisbury added insult to injury by his pompous declaration that England

The "Catholikos of all the Armenians" has appealed to the "Tsar of all the Russias" as "The Sovereign of Armenia," and the Tsar has bestowed on the Catholicos the highest decoration of the Russian Empire: the Tsar has told the Catholicos, "all I ask is, that the Armenians should be loyal to me," and the Catholicos has assured the Tsar that the Armenians are loyal to the sceptre of the Tsar, "The Sovereign of Armenia."

The Armenians, thrust by England and Germany like rats into a rat pit, followed the lead of their Catholicos and turned their eyes to the Colossus of the North; but telegraphic despatches in October, 1913, informed us that the Russian Foreign Minister had hied himself to Berlin, where he had been hobnobbing with the German Foreign Minister, and the two had come to "a full agreement" by which the privilege of the Turkish wolves to devour the Armenians on the soil of Armenia will be perpetuated.

We are told that "The Equilibrium of Europe" and "The Peace of Europe" require that Armenia should remain under Turkish domination; which means, in other words, that "The Equilibrium of Europe" and "The Peace of Europe" require that the Turkish wolves should devour the Armenians on the soil of Armenia. Nevertheless, we know there is a Power mightier than "The Equilibrium of Europe" and "The Peace of Europe," a Power which can shake them to their foundations: and Nemesis must follow crime.

To analyse and define "The Peace of Europe" we must write thus:

The jealousies, the rivalries, the intrigues and the criminal policies of "The Powers"! These have been cooking in the Devil's cauldron in Constantinople in the blood of the Christians of the East (nine-tenths Armenian blood). The cauldron is labelled "The Equilibrium of Europe," and long years of cooking in innocent blood of the ingredients in the cauldron have solidified them into the lump which is now called "The Peace of Europe." It is bitter as Dead Sea fruit and cannot be changed into a honey-comb.

I, not Mr. Carnegie's fine address, opening of The Hague Palace of Peace, not the visits of important personages from one country

under sophistications of language in the past can no longer be hidden in the development of the present.

In 1895 Lord Salisbury added insult to injury by his pompous declaration that England could not land British ships on the Taurus to save the Armenians, notwithstanding the fact that in 1877 British ships had stood in array on the Bosphorus and thrust the Armenians back into the Turkish hell from which they were escaping. Now in 1913 Great Britain shrinks from the menace of being obliged to send British ships to the Bosphorus.

In January, 1913, Russian occupation of Armenia would have been *un fait accompli*; but Russia, which since the death of the Tsar Alexander Second had been waiting to annex Armenia, "when there shall be no Armenians left," found that she waited too long, and that time had created new developments, for Germany had "rights and interests in Asia Minor" and Germany's Baghdad railway, purchased with Armenian blood, had become the obstacle to the Russian occupation.

Thus "The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

Armenia, desolated from Ararat to Cilicia by England, Russia and Germany, has now become the pivot round which England, Russia and Germany are whirling. The situation has reached an *impasse*, and either England, Russia and Germany must give Armenia peace or Armenia must lead them into war.

comb.

I not Mr. Carnegie's fine address opening of The Hague Palace of Peace, not the visits of important personages from one country to another, not honours, receptions, decorations, not the "frank speeches" of British statesmen and not even all the columns of printed matter with which "The Press of Europe" daily edifies the world can change Dead Sea fruit into a honeycomb; and this is, because God has been keeping watch over the cooking of the Dead Sea fruit and God is greater than "The Powers of Europe," greater than "The Press of Europe," and God's laws require that Dead Sea fruit should be laid on the Altar of Expiation before it can be changed into a honeycomb.

"The Powers" seem now to have become like the puss who wore the fairy boots; they seem to be under compulsion of dancing in their boots until the soles are worn out; whilst the mouse (the gun-makers and financiers) eats their supper.

Thus the situation, looking at it from all its angles, has reached, as I have said before, an *impasse*. But the Armenian nation, the victim of "The Equilibrium of Europe" and "The Peace of Europe," does not despair; our courage does not falter, and from out of the deepest depths we are looking up, and we are waiting for the mighty hand of God, mightier than "The Equilibrium of Europe" and "The Peace of Europe," to manifest itself.—Your, etc.,

DIANA AGABEG APCAR.

Yokohama: Nov. 4, 1913.

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TITLE**